



January 11, 2016

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Safety Message

1. Our Nation will observe the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. this month. As we celebrate, leaders and supervisors throughout the command must take a pro-active interest in the safety of our Soldiers, Family Members, Civilian employees, and Contractors.
2. Winter travel is especially dangerous with severe weather conditions found throughout many parts of the country this time of year. Do not become, or allow your family members or friends to become, a statistic. Plan ahead, drive defensively, and avoid fatigue. Make frequent rest stops to stretch or switch drivers. Most importantly, do not drink and drive!
3. Leaders must stress the importance of the Travel Risk Planning System (TRIPS). This is an excellent accident prevention tool for assessing an individual's risk and allows supervisors an opportunity to engage with Soldiers to mitigate risk factors. Access TRIPS online at <https://safety.army.mil/> to initiate a travel assessment prior to travel.
4. Remain vigilant for signs of individuals facing a life crisis and ensure they get the help needed. Look out for your Battle Buddy. Each of you are a valued member of our team. Prevention information is at <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>. If you have immediate concern, contact your Chain of Command or the Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), press 1 for the Military Crisis Line.
5. Best wishes to all for a safe and pleasant holiday.

Support Starts Here!


DARRELL K. WILLIAMS
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Commanding

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16-05

Vigilance and Teamwork!